

4 November 1986  
MJN 8616

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service  
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group  
SUBJECT : Monthly Report--Jordan Bureau--October 1986

I. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. On 15 October, Jordan Bureau Assumed primary coverage responsibility for three Egyptian dailies and two weeklies in a temporary realignment of coverage responsibilities following the closure of Gulf Bureau. The additional coverage includes the dailies AL-AHRAM (national edition), AL-JUMHURIYAH and AL-AKHBAR; and the weeklies AKHBAR AL-YAWM and AL-AHALI.

2. Jordanian King Husayn's 1 November address to the opening of the 4th ordinary session of the 10th Jordanian Parliament served as a forum to reiterate Jordan's commitment to the Palestine question. In the address, King Husayn outlined five "constants" in the Jordanian Government's policy toward the Palestinian problem: that Jordan is not the representative of the Palestinian people and "does not agree to be so"; Jordan "is not and will not be" the substitute for the PLO; Jordan is committed to the Arab summit resolutions; the convening of an international peace conference is the way to a peaceful settlement; and Jordan will continue to support the Palestinian people in the occupied territories. With the assistance of an "official" advance English translation of the address, the bureau processed the speech from Amman Television Service in Arabic and filed a four-take out-of-turn excerpt on the Palestine question. The speech also marked (by the bureau's unofficial reckoning) the King's first public pronouncements on the West Bank development plan.

3. On the 26th a reorganization of the bureau's monitor-supervisor ranks and monitorial shift responsibilities was implemented. With this reorganization, each of the bureau's three monitor-supervisors assumed specific duties and areas of primary responsibility, in addition to normal shift supervisor duties, as follows: coverage/scheduling--Bader Khalidi; training and records--Farah Liddawi; and publications and cruising--Munim Sweiss. These duties will be assigned on a rotating basis.

4. The welter of Arab world reaction to the UK's decision to sever relations with Syria and the withdrawal of the U.S. Ambassador, in addition to the increases associated with the bureau's added coverage responsibilities, pushed the filed wordage to an all-time high of 408,870 words.

Page 2  
MJN 8616

B. Communications

1. A major equipment malfunction at the local embassy [ ] caused an outage of the bureau's primary incoming and outgoing communications circuits of 5 October. During the outage, which lasted over 10 hours, the bureau filed all priority and above items via telex.

STAT

[ ] acted quickly and had spare parts flown in from their regional headquarters.

STAT

C. Technical

1. The following accountable property was received during the month:

a. Three IBM Selectric III typewriters, on transfer from another embassy component.

STAT

Chief, Jordan Bureau

ATT: Monthly Production Report